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## FACT SHEET

# Building Livelihoods and Trade by Turquoise Mountain Trust (TMT)

#### **OVERVIEW**

TMT provides ongoing education and training, economic opportunities, and livelihoods. The project aims to 1) build economic and trade opportunities for Afghans through the economic, social, and cultural regeneration of Murad Khane, a traditional commercial and craft neighborhood in the center of Kabul's Old City, 2) provide traditional craft education through the Institute for Afghan Arts and Architecture; 3) develop the market of Afghan crafts domestically and abroad through business-development activities.

### **CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

- **Education:** Teach traditional Afghan crafts to a new generation of artisans in the Institute for Afghan Arts and Architecture through hands-on training in their craft and training in relevant business skills through supplementary classes
- Urban regeneration: Restore and rebuild Murad Khane including repairing residential and commercial buildings, developing infrastructure, and constructing the Institute of Afghan Arts and Architecture
- Community development: Develop community, health, and education programs
- **Business development:** Increase production of high-quality Afghan arts and crafts as a means to generate incomes and develop the international market for traditional Afghan crafts

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Educated 179 students in the schools of Woodwork, Ceramics, Calligraphy & Miniature Painting, and Jewellery & Gem Cutting
- Graduated two classes of 69 students: 72 percent are involved in their related craft, 16 percent are pursuing advanced studies, and the rest are involved with their family occupations
- Cleared more than 27,000 m<sup>3</sup> of rubbish from the area
- · Paved eight Murad Khane streets
- Repaired 13 shops and rebuilt 65 community houses
- Laid piping for water supply and sanitation at the household level
- The Murad Khane Primary School has moved in to its new home adjoining the Institute
  The school is currently providing education to over 200 children, half boys and half girls, between
  the age of five and 14
- Sold more than \$1.5 million in traditional Afghan arts and crafts in Afghanistan and around the world